GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4959
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2002
EXPORT TARGET AND ACHIEVEMENT
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Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

:

(a) whether the Government have fixed export target after extensive consultation with various Export Promotion Councils and Commodity Boards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the export target fixed and achieved during 2000-2001, 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 till date in each sector;

(d) the growth rate of exports during the above period year-wise;

(e) whether the export growth has been declined after the implementation of WTO agreement particularly in agriculture sector; and

(f) if so, the steps taken by the Government to boost the export particularly in agriculture goods and seafood?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Export targets are fixed after extensive consultations with various Export Promotion Councils and Commodity Boards. The export targets in 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03 were 18%, 3% & 12% respectively. The actual achievements of export growth for these years were 21%, -1.65% and 13.67% (upto April-October 2002-03) respectively. The export growth rate of major sectors in Dollar terms in 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03 are given below:

Sectors	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03#
Textiles	16.62	-10.07	13.33
Gems & jewellery	-1.58	-1.06	31.93
Chemicals and related products	25.75	1.97	15.11
Engineering goods	29.34	0.08	21.91
Agriculture & allied products	5.88	4.24	9.10
Marine products	17.85	-12.90	1.42
Ores & minerals	25.86	4.97	58.88
Electronic goods	54.12	5.27	-4.27

Source : DGCI&S, Kolkata
: pertains to April-August

(e) and (f) No, Sir. The export growth has not declined on account of WTO Agreements. The growth rate of exports in dollar terms in general has been positive and increasing since the Uruguay Round Agreement except for two years due to South East Asian crisis and global recession. Similar is the case with Agriculture and Marine Sector. However, export promotion being a constant endeavour, various initiatives have been taken by the Govt. to boost exports. The specific initiatives taken to boost export of agricultural products include freeing almost all agricultural products for exports, setting up of Agri Export Zones aimed at removing the constraints to agricultural exports in a focused manner, grant of financial assistance for improved packaging, strengthening of quality control and modernisation of processing units and providing assistance for setting up of laboratories for testing of products to ensure quality, eliminating contamination and ensuring freedom from fungi and bacteria.

In the case of marine products the steps taken to boost the exports are conducting Overseas market surveys in USA, South Africa, Middle East countries, China, Taiwan, Korea and seven selected East European countries in order to penetrate these markets. Plan Schemes are being implemented through Marine Products Export Development Authority(MPEDA) to promote coastal aquaculture and financial assistance is extended to sea food processing units for modernisation of the processing units and for technological upgradation. A core group of experts have also been formed to identify and develop new and value added products for exports.